

NEW HOST RECORDS FOR FUNGUS-BREEDING PHORIDAE
(DIPTERA)

By R.H.L. DISNEY* AND R.E. EVANS**

The following records of scuttle flies from fungi were (except where indicated) obtained in rearing experiments by R.E.E. and the flies identified by R.H.L.D. The fungus names follow Phillips (1981).

Conicera similis (Haliday)

Four reared from *Tuber aestivum* Vitt. found by K. Redshaw in Leeds (see Preece and Redshaw, 1978). It has previously been reared from *Pluteus cervinus* (Schaeff. ex. Fr.) Kummer (Schmitz, 1948, Eisfelder, 1956) and obtained in emergence traps set over soil (Disney and Gunn, 1980).

Megaselia berndseni (Schmitz)

Twelve from *Boletus versicolor* Rostk. collected at Sparham Pools, Norfolk (Grid ref. 63/0718) on 14 August 1982. Under the synonym of *M. pygmaeoides* (Lundbeck) (see Disney, 1985), this species has been reported from 18 other species of fungi (Eisfelder, 1956, Buxton, 1961, Disney and Evans, 1979).

Megaselia flava (Fallén)

Twelve from *Gymnopilus hybridus* (Fr. ex Fr.) Sing. collected on 23 November 1984 at Poet's Breck, Norfolk (Grid ref. 63/1313). This species has previously been reared from seven other species of fungi (Schmitz, 1948, Eisfelder, 1956, Buxton, 1961, Disney and Evans, 1982).

Megaselia flavicans Schmitz

Two from *Lyophyllum fumatofoetens* (Secr.) Schaeff. collected at Hockering Wood, Norfolk (Grid ref. 63/0715) on 10 June 1984. It has been reared from 17 other species of fungi (Schmitz, 1948, Eisfelder, 1956, Disney and Evans, 1978, 1982).

Megaselia frameata Schmitz

Three from *Coniophora puteana* (Schum.) Karst. collected at Honingham Fen, Norfolk (Grid ref. 63/0911) on 3 September 1986. It has been reared from six other species of fungi (Buxton, 1961, Colyer, 1954 and unpublished, Disney and Evans, 1982).

Megaselia hirtiventris (Wood)

Three from *Agaricus augustus* Fr. collected at Narford Hall, Norfolk (Grid ref. 63/7613) on 18 September 1983. 74 from *Sclereoderma citrina* Pers. collected at the same locality on the same date. One from *Agaricus silvaticus* Schiff. and Secr. collected from Warren Wood, Norfolk

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(Grid ref. 63/0911) on 16 May 1981. It has previously been recorded from *Agaricus campestris* L. ex Fr. (Eisfelder, 1956) and *Pholiota* sp. (Chandler, 1978).

Megaselia lutescens (Wood)

Twelve from a rotting, galled *Panaeolus subbalteatus* (Berk. and Br.) Sacc. collected at How Hill, Norfolk (Grid ref. 63/3719) on 31 August 1986. Buhr (1965) recorded “? *Megaselia lutescens*” from a galled *Panaeolus* sp. Whether this species causes the galls or, more likely, it parasitises the gall-former (as this species has the sort of ovipositor normally associated with parasitoid habits) is not known.

In addition it has been reared from *Russula foetens* (Pers. ex Fr.) Fr. (Eisfelder, 1956).

Megaselia scutellaris (Wood)

One from *Amanita citrina* (Schaeff.) S.F. Gray collected from Ringland Hills (Grid ref. 63/1313) 25 September 1980. 20 from *Tricholomopsis platyphylla* (Pers. ex Fr.) Sing. collected from Holbrook Gardens, Suffolk (Grid ref. 62/1737) on 16 October 1983. Nine from *Mycena galericulata* (Scop. ex Fr.) S.F. Gray collected at same locality on same day. It has been reared from seven other species of fungi (Eisfelder, 1956, Buxton, 1961).

Megaselia sylvatica (Wood)

M. latior Schmitz has been misidentified as this species in the past (Disney, 1984). Eight from *Pluteus cervinus* (Schaeff. ex Fr.) Kummer collected from Poet's Breck, Honingham, Norfolk on 24 September 1983. It has been reared from two other species of *Pluteus* (Colyer, 1954, Disney and Evans, 1982) and from a *Pleurotus* (Disney and Evans, 1979).

Discussion

The rearings from *Agaricus augustus*, *A. silvaticus*, *Coniophora putaena*, *Gymnopilus hybridus*, *Lyophyllum fumatofoeteens*, *Mycena galericulata*, *Panaeolus subbalteatus*, *Tricholomopsis platyphylla* and *Tuber aestivum* represent the first published records of named phorids from these fungi.

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DROPEPHYLLA GRACILICORNIS FAIRM. AND LAB. (COL.:STAPHYLINIDAE) IN VARIED HABITATS.— Following my friend Prof. Owen's interesting notes on *Phyllodrepa salicis* Gyll. (1988, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* **124**: 35) I offer some remarks on one of its smaller relatives which is not much better known in Britain. There seem few published records of the above scarce Omaliine beyond those in Fowler and Donisthorpe (1913, *Col. Brit. Isl.* **6**: 243), where localities in Berkshire, Cumberland, Isle of Wight and County Durham are listed. Tottenham (*Handb. Ident. Brit. Ins.* **4**(8a): 22) says only "Under bark; rare, a few scattered localities". Fowler had earlier (1888, *Col. Brit. Isl.* **2**: 420) reported one from the London district (Rye) and numbers at Balmuto, Fifeshire (Power). Fowler and Donisthorpe (*loc. cit.*) add an interesting observation respecting biotope: "Mr Piffard has recorded that *Homalium gracilicorne* and *brevicorne* [the latter being in fact *D. grandiloqua* Luze — cf. Champion, 1912, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* **48**: 44] are to be found in the lichen on branches of oak recently blown down". This points to a wider habitat than the strictly subcortical, as also do the following data from examples (carefully checked) in my collection, taken by the late G.H. Ashe: Wicken, Cambs/reed refuse/20.vii.55 (1); Shute Park, Colyton, S. Devon/nest of *Lasius fuliginosus*/26.v.57 (3). Since *D. gracilicornis* is not otherwise known to be myrmecophilous, this last must probably be regarded as accidental. I have also a Dorset specimen (Crichel, 8.vi.36, P. Harwood); and have seen one from Moccas Park, Herefordshire taken by R.W. Lloyd. A.A. ALLEN, 49 Moltcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.